

Minutes

February 10, 2026- Board Meeting

On February 10, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Public Water District met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the hour of 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the District, 500 –17th Street, Zion, Illinois. Chair Ruchti called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Upon the roll being called, Trustees Torres, Ewert, Smith, Latif, and Onan were present. Trustee Ower was absent. Also present were General Manager Jeremy Thompson, Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary Karen Johnston, and Attorney Bryan Winter.

Chair Ruchti indicated that he would entertain a motion to use the consent agenda for the following items:

- 5a) Approval of Regular Session Minutes of January 13, 2026
- 5b) Disbursements for February, 2026.
- 5c) Treasurer’s Report for January 31, 2026
- 5d) Budget Report for January 31, 2026
- 5e) Monthly Operation Summation as of January 31, 2026

Trustee Smith made a motion to use the consent agenda for items 5a through 5e, which was seconded by Trustee Onan. Chair Ruchti asked if any additional discussion was required, as there was none, and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

Ayes: (5) W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (1) D. Ower

Chair Ruchti then indicated that he would entertain a motion to accept the consent agenda and read the items into the record. Trustee Ewert made a motion to accept the consent agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Latif. Chair Ruchti asked if any additional discussion was required, as there was none, and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved, with Chair Ruchti reading the above items into the record.

Ayes: (5) W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (1) D. Ower

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT February 2026 – Disbursements

ACCT. #	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DUE
2920	FICA Withholding Taxes (EE Portion)	Jan-26	4,775.31
2921	Federal Withholding Taxes	Jan-26	5,685.96
2922	IL Department of Revenue	Monthly Remittance	1,470.28
2923	WI Department of Revenue	Monthly Remittance	1,488.17
7205	FICA Withholding Taxes (ER Portion)	Jan-26	4,775.31
2925	IDES	Jan-26	463.67
7255	Correll Co.	Jan-26 Pension	10,830.38
7211	Commonwealth Edison	Jan-26 Electricity	74.84

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7211	Direct Energy	Electricity	20,553.15
7215	Pace Analytical Services	Sample Testing	1,789.00
7221	Hawkins	Chlorine Shipment	2,184.60
7221	Usalco	Aluminum Sulfate Shipment	8,364.94
7222	Amazon Capital Services	Misc. Supplies	87.52
7222	Hach Co.	Lab Supplies	465.72
7225	Concentric Integration	Computer Support	236.25
7225	Hansen Associates, Inc.	Mar-26 Copier Maintenance	69.55
7225	Lakeland/Larsen Elevator Corp.	Qtrly. Elevator Maintenance	406.00
7231	DeLage Financial	Mar-26 Copier Lease	161.76
7232	AT&T	Telephone Service	1,127.42
7232	Verizon	Telephone Service	595.54
7234	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	34.04
7235	AARP - Health	Health Insurance - Diane Fragassi - Mar-26	479.00
7235	AARP - Prescription	RX Coverage - Diane Fragassi - Mar-26	113.90
7235	Blue Cross/Blue Shield	Mar-26 Health Insurance	15,233.37
7235	EM Benefits(Delta Dental)	Mar-26 Dental/Vision	683.47
7235	Ingoglia, Mario	Deductible Reimbursement	7,890.11
7235	Madison, Jim	Deductible Reimbursement	1,192.42
7235	Principal Insurance	Mar-26 Disability/AD&D	803.06
7241	Lauterbach & Amen LLP	Prof. Services - State Filing Assistance	760.00
7241	Your Payroll Dept.	Payroll Fees - Jan-26	483.40
7242	Fuqua Winter Ltd.	Legal Services - Jan-26	1,080.00
7251	Correll Co.	Investment Services	1,217.00
		Total	\$95,575.14

FIRST BANKCARD

	Acct. 7222	Misc. Supplies	151.36
	Acct. 7234	Office Supplies/Postage	30.99
	Acct. 7236	Transportation	123.22
	Acct. 7237	Meetings/Seminars	303.61
	Acct. 7238	Dues/Subscriptions	91.80
	Acct. 7251	Miscellaneous	94.36
		Total First Bankcard	795.34
		Grand Total - Operations	\$96,370.48

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R&R

ACCT. #	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DUE
7300.42	Clark Dietz	FY26 Roof Replacement Proj. - Prof. Services	513.75
7300.42	Daily Herald	FY26 Roof Replacement Proj. - Bid Advertisement	184.00
		Total	\$697.75

COMMITTEES

The board was informed by Chair Ruchti that the committees for fiscal year 2027 were scheduled to be appointed. He stated that he would prefer the trustees to specify the committee on which they would like to serve, rather than appointing them himself. He then detailed the responsibilities of each committee, and following a discussion, announced the following appointments:

Nominations Committee:

Trustees: Suriyya Latif, Chairperson
Kristine Smith

Salary Committee:

Trustees: Terri Ewert, Chairperson
Douglas Ower

Employer/Employee Relations Committee:

Trustees: Amy Onan, Chairperson
Walter Torres

Trustee Torres made a motion to approve the committee assignments, which was seconded by Trustee Smith. Chair Ruchti asked if further discussion was desired. As there was no further discussion, and upon the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS:

General Manager Thompson discussed the proposed, ongoing Community Solar Subscription issue. He advised that both he and Attorney Winter had reviewed the contract and were satisfied with the document. General Manager Thompson asked that the board consider approving the attached resolution, which Chair Ruchti read:

Trustee Torres made a motion to approve the Community Solar Subscription Agreement and accept the resolution, which was seconded by Trustee Latif. Chair Ruchti asked if further discussion was desired, and as there was none and on the following roll call vote, the motion was carried.

Ayes: (5) W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (1) D. Ower

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LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

A RESOLUTION APPROVING COMMUNITY SOLAR SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENTS WITH SOLSTICE POWER TECHNOLOGIES LLC

WHEREAS, the District desires to conserve energy and promote the development and use of renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, the District may subscribe under Community Solar Subscription Agreements (hereinafter "agreements") to receive credits on its electric bills for a share of solar energy produced under the terms of said agreements; and

WHEREAS, the District's energy consultant Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) has recommended that the District enter into Community Solar Subscription Agreement with Solstice Power Technologies LLC for each of the District's electric accounts, a copy of the agreement that would apply for each account is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A";

WHEREAS, each agreement is for a term of twenty (20) years and is scheduled to automatically renew for an additional five (5) year term, unless terminated by the District or the provider; and

WHEREAS, the District may terminate each agreement by providing written notice to the Community Solar Provider at least twelve (12) months prior to the termination date subject to the termination terms of the agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Public Water District, Lake County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are incorporated into this Resolution and shall have the same force and effect as though fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. The Board Chair and Board of Trustees hereby approve the Community Solar Subscription Agreements with Solstice Power Technologies LLC for each of the District's electric accounts, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit A.; and

SECTION 3. The District's General Manager is authorized to execute the attached Agreement with Solstice Power Technologies LLC in substantially the form attached hereto with such changes as may be approved by the officials executing same, the execution of which constitutes conclusive evidence of the approval of such changes, for each electric account of the District.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after this Resolution's passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

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LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

A RESOLUTION APPROVING COMMUNITY SOLAR SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENTS WITH SOLSTICE POWER TECHNOLOGIES LLC

(CORPORATE SEAL)



Karen L. Johnston

Karen L. Johnston
Secretary, Board of Trustees

PRESENTED AND READ: February 10, 2026

PASSED AND APPROVED:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Trustees voting aye:	W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Trustee voting nay:	None
Trustees absent:	D. Ower

MOTION CARRIED

LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC WATER DISTRICT

Michael B. Ruchti
Chair, Board of Trustees

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Application** –General Manager Thompson stated that he spoke with Mark Siefert from Baxter & Woodman regarding the status of the State Revolving Fund Loan Application. He then proceeded to identify the work items completed thus far. General Manager Thompson advised that a virtual meeting was scheduled for March 23 to evaluate the 30% design review. Discussion of this subject followed.

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- ➔ **2025 Intake Stone Placement** – The General Manager, Thompson, has reported a discrepancy regarding the stone quantity outlined in the bid specifications and permits for this project. He communicated with Mr. Tom Foley from Clark Dietz about the inconsistency, who subsequently reached out to Midwest Marine Contractors to confirm the accurate quantity. Following the receipt of the updated information from Mr. Foley, the permit has been revised, allowing the project to move forward. Discussion of this subject followed.

- ➔ **Roof Replacement Project** – General Manager Thompson stated the bid advertisement for the District’s Filtration Plant Roof Replacement project was published in the Lake County issue of the Daily Herald and at ClarkDietz.com on Thursday January 22. He further indicated that following the bid opening on Tuesday, March 3, the District will have the opportunity to evaluate the bids and offer a recommendation prior to the District’s Board meeting on March 10. At that meeting, and upon approval of the board, the bid may be awarded to the lowest, responsible bidder. Discussion of this subject followed.

- ➔ **Discussion of Annual Financial Reporting with Illinois State Comptroller’s Office**– General Manager Thompson reported that Ms. Jamie Wilkey Lauterbach & Amen contacted the Illinois State Comptroller’s Office on January 14. She stated that she had not yet received a response, but that was not uncommon. A copy of her email was included in the board packet. Discussion of this subject followed.

General Manager Thompson indicated he would like more information on the comptroller issue before proceeding with the RFP for auditing services. Discussion of this subject followed.

Trustee Onan made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Trustee Ewert. Upon the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

X

Karen L. Johnston
Board Secretary